

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE  
SOUTH DAKOTA

**OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE PLAN  
IRRIGATION SYSTEM - TAILWATER RECOVERY  
CODE 447**

Land Owner/Operator \_\_\_\_\_

Job Location \_\_\_\_\_ GPS  
\_\_\_\_\_

Prepared By \_\_\_\_\_ Date  
\_\_\_\_\_

**OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE ITEMS**

Operation and maintenance (O&M) is necessary for all conservation practices and is required for all practices installed with NRCS assistance. The landuser is responsible for proper O&M throughout the life of the practice and as may be required by Federal, state or local laws or regulations.

Operation refers to operation of the practice in compliance with all laws, regulations, ordinances, and easements; and in such a manner that will result in the least adverse impact on the environment and will permit the practice to serve the purpose for which it was installed. Maintenance includes work to prevent deterioration of the practice, repairing damage, or replacing components which fail.

Necessary operation and maintenance items for this practice include:

- ☐ Control field soil erosion to help minimize sediment deposits in tailwater facilities.
- ☐ Minimize erosion in collection ditches and pipeline inlets. Controlling erosion helps minimizes sediment deposits in storage facilities, sumps, and low velocity pipelines and ditches.
- ☐ Periodically clean trash racks, sediment traps, sumps, reservoirs, and ditches to maintain design capacity and efficiency.
- ☐ Prevent, and if necessary, remove crop residue and foreign debris from entering water conveyance facilities. Properly cleaned and maintained screens help minimize required system maintenance.
- ☐ Periodically check all above ground pipeline connections and structures for leaks and proper operation. A one gallon per minute leak totals over 10,000 gallons per week.
- ☐ Perform motor and engine maintenance according to a fixed schedule based on hours of operation in addition to “as needed” maintenance based on observation.

Other \_\_\_\_\_  
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